

We the Corporations of the United States, in Order to generate much greater Profits, establish Lobbyists, insure domestic Control, provide for our legal defense, promote our own Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Deregulation for ourselves and our Shareholders, do ordain and establish this Constitution of the United States of America.

That was not the dream our founding fathers had for our nation, and yet our government is regularly found choosing corporations and big business over the welfare of the people. Today, I am writing specifically about the threat to Net Neutrality.

The absence of Net Neutrality jeopardizes the ability of Americans to inform themselves. Removing Net Neutrality places takes the key to information out of the hands of the people and places it in the hands of a select few internet company executives. The fact that our representatives would even consider giving corporations the power to influence the information Americans can access is disgusting! Net Neutrality prevents large corporations from crushing smaller competitors online, influencing the news and information people can access, and dismantling the fundamentally necessary components of American democracy and capitalism.

The threat to Net Neutrality demonstrates a lack of understanding our representatives have about the Information Age. Information and the Internet have, in a very short time, become deeply entrenched in American culture; they fuel political decisions, shopping habits, entertainment, and so much more. The power to control these is dangerous and most definitely shouldn't be in the hands of corporations or influenced by a blank check. Removing Net Neutrality sets a disastrous precedent that could lead to the suppression of thought and information that Orwell warned about in *1984*. Already, we see hints that money and influence can sway politics and government away from the interests of the people, and we cannot allow that trend to continue.

Net Neutrality must be preserved in order to maintain Americans' independence of thought, access to information, and ability to choose in all things. Removing Net Neutrality is a threat to our culture and our democracy. Protect Net Neutrality!